UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/821,651	03/29/2001	Takao Yoshimine	450100-03090	5730

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EXAMINER
CHANKONG, DOHM

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2152	

DATE MAILED: 01/24/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

	Application No.	**Applicant(s)**
Office Action Summary	09/821,651	YOSHIMINE ET AL.
	Examiner	**Art Unit**
	Dohm Chankong	2152

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) FROM
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed
  after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any
  earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *12 October 2004*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is
closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-20* is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-20* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☒ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage
application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1>   Applicant's remarks have been received and reviewed. Claims 1-20 are presented for

further examination.

Response to Arguments

2>   Applicant's arguments, see pages 9 and 10, filed 10.12.2004, with respect to the

rejection(s)of claim(s) 1-20 under 35 U.SC § 102 and 103 have been fully considered and are

persuasive. Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn. However, upon further

consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection is made in view of newly found prior art,

disclosed herewith.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3>   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form

the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4>   Claims 1, are rejected under 35 U.S.C § 102(e) as being anticipated by Prust, U.S

Patent No. 6.714.968.

5>   As to claim 1, Prust discloses an information processing device, comprising:

transmitting means for transmitting user registration data necessary to secure one's

exclusive storage area in a server connected in a network, to said server over a network

[abstract | Figure 8 «items 805, 807» | column 7 «line 59» to column 8 «line 7»];

receiving means for receiving address data designated as an access point indicating

said exclusive storage area oriented to said user registration data from said server over said

network [column 5 «lines 29-38» | column 6 «lines 23-36 and 59-62» where: Prust discloses

using a web browser to access the storage area. Therefore it is implicit that an address is

transmitted from which the user can access the area]; and

connection means for performing connection processing automatically to said access

point in the said server based on said address data received by said receiving means [column

6 «lines 23-36» where: Prust discloses automatically connecting to the remote directory using

a script].

6>   As to claim 2, Prust discloses the information processing device of claim 1, wherein

said connection means is to retain said address data oriented to an automatic connection

setting program, thereby performing connection processing to said access point in said server

oriented to said address data in accordance with said automatic connection setting program

[column 6 «lines 23-36» where: Prust's AppleScript is analogous to an automatic connection

setting program].

7>   As to claim 4, Prust discloses the information processing device wherein said connection means is to perform connection processing to said access point in said server in response to a click operation on an exclusive icon.which is displayed on a given display unit for driving said automatic connection setting program [column 5 «lines 45-59»].

8>   As to claim 5, Prust discloses an information processing device of claim 1 wherein said address data is a uniform resource locator (URL) for designating resources on said network [column 5 «lines 29-38» | column 6 «lines 23-36 and 59-62» | column 7 «lines 26-30»].

9>   As to claims 6, 11 and 16, as they are merely methods or mediums that perform the same steps of the device of claim 1, they are rejected for the same reasons set forth for claim 1, supra.

10>   As to claims 7, 12 and 17, as they are merely methods or mediums that perform the same steps of the device of claim 2, they are rejected for the same reasons set forth for claim 2, supra.

11>   As to claims 9, 14 and 19, as they are merely methods or mediums that perform the same steps of the device of claim 4, they are rejected for the same reasons set forth for claim 4, supra.

12>   As to claims 10, 15 and 20, as they are merely methods or mediums that perform the

same steps of the device of claim 5, they are rejected for the same reasons set forth for claim

5, <u>supra</u>.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

13>   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in
> section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art
> are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a
> person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be
> negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

14>   Claims 3, 8, 13 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C § 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Prust in view of Salo et al, U.S Patent No. 6.563.800 ["Salo"].

15>   As to claim 3, Prust does disclose a receiving means to receive address data [column 5

«lines 29-38» | column 6 «lines 23-36 and 59-62»] and an automatic connection program

[column 6 «lines 28-36»] but does not specifically disclose an information processing device

of claim 1 wherein:

said receiving means is to receive an automatic connection setting program containing

said address data, from said server; and

said connection means is to perform connection processing to said access point in said

server oriented said address data in accordance with said automatic connection setting

program.

16>   Salo discloses the information processing device of claim 1 wherein:

said receiving means is to receive said address data as well as an automatic

connection setting program containing said address data, from said server (column 9, lines

52-59 and column 10, lines 48-51 where: Salo's enterprise access code is comparable in

functionality to an automatic connection setting program); and

said connection means is to perform connection processing to said access point in said

server oriented said address data in accordance with said automatic connection setting

program (column 9, lines 52-65).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate into

Prust, means for transmitting the automatic connection setting program from the server as

taught by Salo. As both Salo and Prust disclose the use of an automatic connection setting

program, one would have been motivated to improve Prust's efficiency by allowing the

server control over how the user connects to the storage area (and eliminating the need fo the

user to write his own program as taught by Prust) by downloading the program to the user.

17>   As to claims 8, 13 and 18, as they are merely methods or mediums that perform the

same steps of the device of claim 3, they are rejected for the same reasons set forth for claim

3, <u>supra</u>.

18>   Claims 1-3, 5-8, 10-13, 15-18 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C § 103(a) as being

unpatentable over Salo, in view of Prust.

19>   Salo was cited by Examiner in non-final Office Action, dated 7.8.2004.

20>   As to claim 1, Salo discloses an information processing device, comprising:

receiving means for receiving address data designated as an access point indicating

said exclusive storage area from said server over said network (column 10, lines 48-57 where:

Salo's storage area is associated specifically with the user and his URL is analogous to

address data); and

connection means for performing connection processing automatically to said access

point in the said server based on said access data received by said receiving means (column 9,

lines 52-65 where: Salo's URL establishes the access point for the user into his exclusive

storage area).

Salo does not specifically disclose transmitting means for transmitting user

registration data necessary to secure one's exclusive storage area in a server connected in a

network, to said server over a network.

21>   Because Salo discloses accessing exclusive data storage area from a server that is

associated to a specific user, the step of registering the data storage area is implicit to the

invention but Salo does not disclose the specific step as in the claim. Prust discloses a

transmitting means for transmitting user registration data necessary to secure one's exclusive

storage area in a server connected in a network, to said server over a network [abstract |

Figure 8 «items 805, 807» | column 7 «line 59» to column 8 «line 7»]. Both Prust and Salo are

directed towards remotely accessing data, it would have been obvious to incorporate Prust's

user registration functionality into Salo to help establish the exclusive storage area. One

would have been motivated to perform such a implementation for the obvious benefits of

establishing a secure remote storage area that is associated and can only be accessed by a user.

22>   As to claim 2, Salo discloses the information processing device of claim 1, wherein

said connection means is to retain said address data oriented to an automatic connection

setting program, thereby performing connection processing to said access point in said server

oriented to said address data in accordance with said automatic connection setting program

(column 9, lines 40-51, column 10, lines 48-57 and claim 1 where: Salo automatically directs

the user to his exclusive storage area after succesful authentication).

23>   As to claim 3, Salo discloses the information processing device of claim 1 wherein:

        said receiving means is to receive said address data as well as an automatic

connection setting program containing said address data, from said server (column 9, lines

52-59 and column 10, lines 48-51 where: Salo's enterprise access code is comparable in

functionality to an automatic connection setting program); and

        said connection means is to perform connection processing to said access point in said

server oriented said address data in accordance with said automatic connection setting

program (column 9, lines 52-65).

24>   As to claim 5, Salo discloses an information processing device of claim 1 wherein said

address data is a uniform resource locator (URL) for designating resources on said network

(column 10, lines 48-57).

25>   Claim 6 is a method that claims the steps carried out by the information processing

device of claim 1. Therefore, claim 6 is rejected for the same reasons as set forth for claim 1,

supra.

26>   Claim 7 is a method that claims the steps carried out by the information processing

device of claim 2. Therefore, claim 7 is rejected for the same reasons set forth for claim 2,

supra.

27>   Claim 8 is a method that claims the steps carried out by the information processing

device of claim 3. Therefore, claim 8 is rejected for the same reasons as set forth for claim 3,

supra.

28>   Claim 10 is a method that claims the steps carried out by the information processing

device of claim 5. Therefore, claim 10 is rejected for the same reasons as set forth for claim 5,

supra.

29>   Claim 11 is a storage medium that claims the steps performed by the information

processing device of claim 1. Therefore, claim 11 is rejected for the same reasons as set forth

for claim 1, <u>supra</u>.

30>   Claim 12 is a storage medium that claims the steps performed by the information

processing device of claim 2. Therefore, claim 12 is rejected for the same reasons as set forth

for claim 2, <u>supra</u>.

31>   Claim 13 is a storage medium that claims the steps performed by the information

processing device of claim 3. Therefore, claim 11 is rejected for the same reasons as set forth

for claim 3, <u>supra</u>.

32>   Claim 15 is a storage medium that claims the steps performed by the information

processing device of claim 5. Therefore, claim 15 is rejected for the same reasons as set forth

for claim 5, <u>supra</u>.

33>   Claim 16 is a network system consisting of a server and information processing device

connected to said server that performs the steps of the information processing device of claim

1. Therefore, claim 16 is rejected for the same reasons as set forth for claim 1, <u>supra</u>.

34>   Claim 17 is a network system consisting of a server and information processing device

connected to said server that performs the steps of the information processing device of claim

2. Therefore, claim 17 is rejected for the same reasons as set forth for claim 2, <u>supra</u>.

35>   Claim 18 is a network system consisting of a server and information processing device

connected to said server that performs the steps of the information processing device of claim

3. Therefore, claim 18 is rejected for the same reasons as set forth for claim 3, <u>supra</u>.

36>   Claim 20 is a network system consisting of a server and information processing device

connected to said server that performs the steps of the information processing device of claim

5. Therefore, claim 20 is rejected for the same reasons as set forth for claim 5, <u>supra</u>.

37>   Claims 4, 9, 14, and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C 103(a) as being anticipated by Salo

and Prust, in further view of Hayes, Jr. et al ("Hayes"), U.S Patent No. 6,339,826.

38>   Hayes was cited by Examiner in non-final Office Action, dated 7.8.2004.

39>   Salo does not teach an information processing device wherein said connection means

is to perform connection processing to said access point in said server in response to a click

operation on an exclusive icon which is displayed on a given display unit for driving said

automatic connection setting program.

40>   Hayes teaches a connections means that performs connection processing to said access

point in said server in response to a click operation on an exclusive icon which is displayed

on a given display unit for driving said automatic connection setting program (Figure 7,

items 710 712, 714, and 716 and column 14, lines 7-26). It would have been obvious to one of

ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include Hayes' icon

functionality into Salo increase the security of the device by associating specific icons (and

their related applications) to users, which would consequently allow users to access only

those applications on the server which they are authorized.

41>   Claim 9 is a method that claims the steps carried out by the information processing

device of claim 4. Therefore, claim 9 is rejected for the same reasons as set forth for claim 4,

supra.

42>   Claim 14 is a storage medium that claims the steps performed by the information

processing device of claim 4. Therefore, claim 14 is rejected for the same reasons as set forth

for claim 4, supra.

43>   Claim 19 is a network system consisting of a server and information processing device

connected to said server that performs the steps of the information processing device of claim

4. Therefore, claim 19 is rejected for the same reasons as set forth for claim 4, supra.
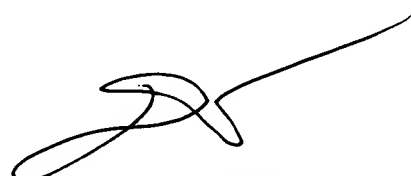
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dohm Chankong whose telephone number is (571)272-3942. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00AM - 5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Glenton Burgess can be reached on (571)272-3949. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

DC

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